Genesis 14 Good News Translation

Abram Rescues Lot

14 Four kings, Amraphel of Babylonia, Arioch of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer of Elam, and
Tidal of Goiim, **2** went to war against five other kings: Bera of Sodom, Birsha of
Gomorrah, Shinab of Admah, Shemeber of Zeboiim, and the king of Bela (or Zoar).
3 These five kings had formed an alliance and joined forces in Siddim Valley, which is
now the Dead Sea. **4** They had been under the control of Chedorlaomer for twelve
years, but in the thirteenth year they rebelled against him. **5** In the fourteenth year
Chedorlaomer and his allies came with their armies and defeated the Rephaim in
Ashteroth Karnaim, the Zuzim in Ham, the Emim in the plain of Kiriathaim, **6** and the
Horites in the mountains of Edom, pursuing them as far as Elparan on the edge of the
desert. **7** Then they turned around and came back to Kadesh (then known as
Enmishpat). They conquered all the land of the Amalekites and defeated the Amorites
who lived in Hazazon Tamar.

8 Then the kings of Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, Zeboiim, and Bela drew up their armies
for battle in Siddim Valley and fought **9** against the kings of Elam, Goiim, Babylonia, and
Ellasar, five kings against four. **10** The valley was full of tar pits, and when the kings of
Sodom and Gomorrah tried to run away from the battle, they fell into the pits; but the
other three kings escaped to the mountains. **11** The four kings took everything in
Sodom and Gomorrah, including the food, and went away. **12** Lot, Abram's nephew, was
living in Sodom, so they took him and all his possessions.

13 But a man escaped and reported all this to Abram, the Hebrew, who was living near
the sacred trees belonging to Mamre the Amorite. Mamre and his brothers Eshcol and
Aner were Abram's allies. **14** When Abram heard that his nephew had been captured, he
called together all the fighting men in his camp, 318 in all, and pursued the four kings
all the way to Dan. **15** There he divided his men into groups, attacked the enemy by
night, and defeated them. He chased them as far as Hobah, north of Damascus, **16** and
got back all the loot that had been taken. He also brought back his nephew Lot and his
possessions, together with the women and the other prisoners.

Melchizedek Blesses Abram

17 When Abram came back from his victory over Chedorlaomer and the other kings, the king of Sodom went out to meet him in Shaveh Valley (also called King's Valley). **18** And Melchizedek, who was king of Salem and also a priest of the Most High God, brought bread and wine to Abram, **19** blessed him, and said, "May the Most High God, who made heaven and earth, bless Abram! **20** May the Most High God, who gave you victory over your enemies, be praised!" And Abram gave Melchizedek a tenth of all the loot he had recovered.

21 The king of Sodom said to Abram, "Keep the loot, but give me back all my people."

22 Abram answered, "I solemnly swear before the LORD, the Most High God, Maker of heaven and earth, **23** that I will not keep anything of yours, not even a thread or a sandal strap. Then you can never say, 'I am the one who made Abram rich.' **24** I will take nothing for myself. I will accept only what my men have used. But let my allies, Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre, take their share."

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